

## Message Text

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ACTION PRS-01

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 IO-13 ISO-00 SS-15 SSO-00 NSC-05  
NSCE-00 PA-02 /049 W  
-----261732Z 128219 /45

O 261603Z MAR 77  
FM USMISSION NATO  
TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 2460  
USIA WASHDC IMMEDIATE  
USINFO WASHDC IMMEDIATE  
AMEMBASSY MOSCOW  
INFO ALL NATO CAPITALS 6981  
USIO GENEVA  
USDEL MBFR VIENNA

UNCLAS SECTION 1 OF 2 USNATO 1739

SECSTATE FOR S/PRS; DEPARTMENT PASS NSC FOR DR. BRZEZINSKI

AND WHITE HOUSE FOR MR. POWELL; USIA FOR IPS/PE LAFE ALLEN;

MOSCOW FOR HODDING CARTER

E.O. 11652: N/A  
TAGS: NATO, PFOR, OVIP (SECSTATE VANCE)  
SUBJECT: TRANSCRIPT OF SECRETARY OF STATE VANCE'S STATEMENT  
TO THE PRESS FOLLOWING SPECIAL SESSION OF THE NAC

FOLLOWING IS TRANSCRIPT OF SECRETARY OF STATE VANCE'S  
STATEMENT TO THE PRESS AND RESPONSES TO QUESTIONS  
FOLLOWING THE SPECIAL SESSION OF THE NORTH ATLANTIC COUNCIL  
AT NATO HEADQUARTERS, BRUSSELS, BELGIUM, MARCH 26, 1977:

BEGIN TRANSCRIPT:

SECRETARY VANCE: GOOD AFTERNOON LADIES AND GENTLEMEN. I  
HAVE JUST FINISHED MY MEETING WITH THE COUNCIL AND DURING  
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THAT MEETING I BRIEFED THEM ON THE SUBJECTS WHICH WILL BE  
DISCUSSED DURING OUR TRIP TO MOSCOW. WE THEN HAD AN EXCHANGE  
OF VIEWS WITH RESPECT TO A NUMBER OF THOSE MATTERS AND I WAS  
VERY HAPPY TO RECEIVE SUGGESTIONS AND ADVICE FROM VARIOUS  
MEMBERS OF THE COUNCIL.

I WILL BE DELIGHTED TO TAKE ANY QUESTIONS WHICH THE EUROPEAN  
PRESS HAVE.

QUESTION: MR. SECRETARY, ISN'T IT TRUE THAT THE CEILING IN THE (INAUDIBLE)?

THE SECRETARY: I AM NOT GOING TO GO INTO DETAILS ON ANY NUMBERS.

QUESTION: MR. SECRETARY, DO YOU HAVE A COMPREHENSIVE PACKAGE FOR SALT II WITH REDUCTIONS OR ELSE, IF THAT WAS NOT AGREED, WITH A RETURN TO THE VLADIVOSTOK CEILINGS SIMPLY AS IT WAS THEN?

THE SECRETARY: YES, BASICALLY THERE WILL BE TWO PACKAGES: ONE A COMPREHENSIVE PACKAGE WHICH WOULD INVOLVE DEEP REDUCTIONS AND THE SECOND WOULD BE AN ALTERNATIVE PACKAGE. THAT PACKAGE WOULD SET ASIDE THE CONTROVERSIAL ISSUES, NAMELY BACKFIRE AND CRUISE, AND PROCEED TO AN EARLY RESOLUTION OF THE REMAINING ISSUES AND A SIGNING BASED UPON THE VLADIVOSTOK NUMBERS.

QUESTION: DID YOU DISCUSS WITH THE ALLIES HERE THE EFFECT OF THE HUMAN RIGHTS ISSUE ON YOUR NEGOTIATIONS?

THE SECRETARY: YES, WE DID HAVE A DISCUSSION OF THAT.

QUESTION: TO WHAT EXTENT DO THE EUROPEAN ALLIES SUPPORT MR. CARTER'S (INAUDIBLE)?

THE SECRETARY: I THINK THEY WOULD HAVE TO SPEAK FOR THEM-  
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SELVES ON THIS. I FOUND A GOOD DEAL OF INTEREST IN OUR PROPOSALS. I HAD A SENSE THAT THEY GENERALLY SUPPORTED THE LINE THAT WE WERE TAKING BUT THEY REALLY SHOULD SPEAK FOR THEMSELVES RATHER THAN I ATTEMPTING TO SPEAK FOR THEM.

QUESTION: MR. SECRETARY, DO YOU INTEND TO ASK THE SOVIET GOVERNMENT NOT TO DEPLOY MOBILE MISSILES AND PARTICULARLY NOT TO DEPLOY THE NEW IRBM TARGETTED AGAINST...

THE SECRETARY: WE'RE GETTING INTO THE AMOUNT OF DETAIL THAT I REALLY DON'T FEEL IS APPROPRIATE TO GET INTO IN A PUBLIC DISCUSSION.

QUESTION: MR. SECRETARY, IT HAS BEEN SUGGESTED THAT THE UNITED STATES IS TAKING A HARD LINE IN THESE NEGOTIATIONS BECAUSE THE LESS AMBITIOUS PACKAGE OF SIMPLE RATIFICATION OF VLADIVOSTOK HAS BEEN REJECTED BY THE RUSSIANS AND THE MORE AMBITIOUS PACKAGE SEEMS TO CLASH WITH MR. BREZHNEV'S VIEW THAT HE IS NOT INTERESTED IN ANY NEW DEVELOPMENTS AND WANTS TO STICK TO THE BASIC OUTLINE OF VLADIVOSTOK. HOW DO YOU HANDLE THAT SIR?

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TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 2461  
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USINFO WASHDC IMMEDIATE  
AMEMBASSY MOSCOW  
INFO ALL NATO CAPITALS 6982  
USIO GENEVA  
USDEL MBFR VIENNA

UNCLAS SECTION 2 OF 2 USNATO 1739

SECSTATE FOR S/PRS; DEPARTMENT PASS NSC FOR DR. BRZEZINSKI

AND WHITE HOUSE FOR MR. POWELL; USIA FOR IPS/PE LAFE ALLEN;

MOSCOW FOR HODDING CARTER

THE SECRETARY: WELL, WE THINK THAT THE COMPREHENSIVE PACKAGE IS A PACKAGE THAT REALLY BEGINS TO GET AT THE HEART OF THE PROBLEM BECAUSE IT LEADS TO SUBSTANTIAL REDUCTIONS AND THUS BRINGS ABOUT GREATER STABILITY, AND THAT IS THE WHOLE PURPOSE OF ARMS CONTROL IN THE STRATEGIC FIELD--TO GET REDUCTIONS THAT CAN LEAD TO GREATER STABILITY AND THUS DIMINISH THE CHANCES OF CONFLICT. IF IT IS NOT POSSIBLE TO REACH AN AGREEMENT ON SUCH A PACKAGE AS A FRAMEWORK FOR THE DETAILED DISCUSSIONS WHICH OF COURSE WILL HAVE TO TAKE PLACE IN GENEVA--THEY COULD NOT TAKE PLACE IN SUCH A SHORT MEETING AS WE WILL BE HAVING DURING OUR VISIT TO MOSCOW--THEN WE HAVE SAID THERE IS ANOTHER MUCH SIMPLER ALTERNATIVE AND THAT SIMPLY IS TO SET ASIDE THE CONTROVERSIAL  
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ISSUES, AGREE ON THE VLADIVOSTOK NUMBERS AND THE OTHER SMALLER ISSUES WHICH REMAIN OPEN, AND GET ON TO A DISCUSSION OF THE MORE FUNDAMENTAL QUESTIONS IN SALFT III. SO WE THINK THAT THIS IS A VERY REASONABLE AND BALANCED APPROACH TO BE PUTTING BEFORE THEM.

QUESTION: MR. SECRETARY, HOW MUCH DO YOU THINK YOU CAN

ACHIEVE IN MOSCOW?

THE SECRETARY: I REALLY DON'T KNOW. I HOPE THAT WE CAN ACHIEVE THE BASIC OBJECTIVE, AND THAT BASIC OBJECTIVE, AS I HAVE SAID BEFORE, IS TO TRY AND REACH AGREEMENT ON A FRAMEWORK AND THAT FRAMEWORK WOULD THEN SERVE AS THE FRAME WITHIN WHICH THE DISCUSSIONS WOULD TAKE PLACE ON A DETAILED BASIS IN GENEVA. IF WE WERE TO ACHIEVE THAT I THINK WE WOULD HAVE MADE SUBSTANTIAL PROGRESS. WHETHER THAT CAN BE ACCOMPLISHED I SIMPLY DON'T KNOW.

QUESTION: HAVE YOU ALREADY HAD, MR. SECRETARY, AN INITIAL RESPONSE FROM THE RUSSIANS AS TO THESE LATEST PROPOSALS?

THE SECRETARY: NO, I HAVE NOT.

QUESTION: ARE YOU GOING TO TALK ABOUT AFRICA IN MOSCOW?

THE SECRETARY: I EXPECT AFRICA TO BE ONE OF THE SUBJECTS ON THE AGENDA, YES.

QUESTION: (INAUDIBLE) AND DID YOU BRIEF THE COUNCIL ABOUT THE SITUATION IN THE EASTERN MEDITERRANEAN AND IN PARTICULAR THE RELATIONS BETWEEN GREECE-TURKEY AND CYPRUS?

THE SECRETARY: NO, WE DID NOT DISCUSS THAT TODAY. WE HAD A BRIEF DISCUSSION OR A FEW QUESTIONS WITH RESPECT TO THE ARAB-ISRAELI PROBLEMS BUT THERE WAS NO DISCUSSION OF GREECE AND TURKEY'S...

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QUESTION: WHAT IS YOUR EVALUATION ABOUT THE SITUATION?

THE SECRETARY: WHERE, IN GREECE AND TURKEY, OR CYPRUS? WHICH ARE YOU TALKING ABOUT?

ANSWER: BOTH OF THEM.

THE SECRETARY: AS I UNDERSTAND IT THE CYPRUS TALKS WILL BE COMMENCING AGAIN UNDER THE AEGIS OF THE UNITED NATIONS IN VIENNA IN A FEW DAYS. I THINK THAT THAT IS PROGRESS. I HOPE VERY MUCH THAT WHEN THOSE MEETINGS TAKE PLACE NEW PROPOSALS WILL BE PUT ON THE TABLE. IF THEY ARE, THEN I THINK THAT THAT WOULD BE A SUBSTANTIAL STEP FORWARD. I THINK THAT THERE IS PROBABLY NOTHING MUCH THAT I CAN ADD THAT YOU DON'T ALREADY KNOW WITH RESPECT TO THE QUESTIONS RELATING TO THE DIFFERENCES BETWEEN GREECE AND TURKEY ON THE AEGEAN.

QUESTION: REDUCTIONS OF ARMS (INAUDIBLE), WILL YOU BE DISCUSSING THAT?

THE SECRETARY: YES, THAT WILL BE ONE OF THE SUBJECTS  
ON THE AGENDA.

THANK YOU ALL VERY MUCH.

END TRANSCRIPT.  
STRAUSZ-HUPE

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## Message Attributes

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